

SENATE BILL 904  
By Black

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 6, Part 21, relative to the safe operation of  
school buses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-2110(a), is amended by  
deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) A school bus shall at no time transport more pupils than the manufacturer's  
rated capacity for such bus, allowing not less than thirteen linear inches (13") of seat  
space for each pupil. The commissioner of education may, under rules and regulations  
prepared by the commissioner and approved by the state board of education, issue  
permits to a local board of education allowing the number of pupils transported on a  
school bus to exceed the limit herein prescribed up to, but not to exceed, fifteen percent  
(15%) of the manufacturer's rated capacity. In no event shall a permit be issued  
authorizing the loading of a school bus beyond the limits of safety.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.